

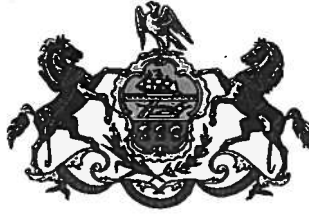
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TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Jane C. Orie *JCO*
DATE: December 16, 2010
SUBJECT: **Diabetes Management in Schools**

I will soon be reintroducing a revised version of **SB 737**, which would amend the School Code by providing for the management of diabetes while students are in school or at school-related activities.

The care of a student with diabetes requires management 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For students with type 1 diabetes, and for some with type 2 diabetes, that means monitoring blood glucose (sugar) levels throughout the day and administering insulin therapy. Blood glucose levels that are well-managed help young people avoid short-term complications of blood glucose levels that are too high or too low, stave off the long-term complications of diabetes, and feel better and be more productive at school and at play. Most states allow for trained staff (in addition to the nurse) to help with everyday and emergency medications.

My legislation would allow students who are capable of self-managing their diabetes, be permitted to do so. In addition, staff volunteers would be trained in the routine and emergency care needs of students who need assistance with their diabetes management (checking blood glucose, administering insulin, or administering glucagon), when a school nurse is not available. The Department of Health would also be required to issue diabetes management guidelines and training modules for schools.

SB 737 was cosponsored by Senators Baker, Boscola, Browne, Costa, Ferlo, Fontana, Kitchen, Leach, Mellow, O'Pake, Rafferty, Stack, Stout, Washington, Waugh, M. White and Williams.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please contact Kacie Morrell at 787-6538 or kmorrell@pasen.gov.

JCO/ns